S. M.

MINUTES

OF THE

Fourth Annual Session

OF THE

SIBERIA-MISSION

(RUSSIAN DEPARTMENT)

OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

HELD IN HARBIN, CHINA

Sept. 17, 1925.

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OFFICERS OF THE MEETING

BISHOP H. A. BOAZ, M. A. D. D., PRESIDENT

MISS LILLIAN WAHL, SECRETARY.

Bishop Boaz, Missionaries and Faculty of the Methodist High School, Harbin, China.

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE SIBERIA-MANCHURIA MISSION, RUSSIAN DEPARTMENT

The fourth annual session of the Siberia-Manchuria Mission, Russian Department, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, convened in the Central Church, New Town, Harbin, Manchuria, 7:30 P. M. Thursday, September 17th, 1925, with Bishop H. A. Boaz presiding. Following the song service Mr. Osipoff, led in prayer. Bishop Boaz conducted the devotional service reading from Ephesians 4:1-12. Mr. Poysti then led in prayer.

The roll was called and the following answered to their names: Mr. H. W. Jenkins, Mr. Geo. F. Erwin, Miss Constance Rumbough, Mr. N. J. Poysti, Mr. G. I. Yasinitsky, Mr. Alex. Gavrilovchuk, Mr. A. A. Guroff, Mr. Mr. G. V. Volegoff, Miss Lillian Wahl and the delegates from Central Church, New Town and Pristan: Mr. G. A. Kozlovsky, Mr. S. V. Speransky, Mr. N. F. Tarasoff, Mrs. Sharapova, Mrs. Drozdovskaya, Mr. K. F. Olenikoff, Mr. K. D. Egoroff and Mr. A. T. Kavaluk.

Miss Wahl was elected secretary.

The following names were called, their character passed and written reports accepted: Mr. H. W. Jenkins, superintendent of Mission, Rev. Geo. F. Erwin, Pastor Central Church, Harbin, Rev. N. J. Poysti, Pastor Modyagow and Pristan Churches, Harbin, Mr. G. I. Yasinitsky, Assistant Pastor in Central Church and Bible Teacher in both Gymnasiums, Mr. A. Gavrilovchuk, Assistaut Pastor in Central Church, Harbin, Mr. A. A. Guroff, Assistant pastor in Modyagow church, Mr. G. V. Volegoff, Assistant Pastor in Pristan Church, Miss Constance Rumbough, Woman's work and Miss Lillian Wahl, Woman's work. Mrs. H. W. Jenkins and Mrs. Geo. F. Erwin gave verbal reports of their work during the year.

It was unanimously voted to renew the license of G. I. Yasinitsky, A. A. Guroff, G. V. Volegoff and Alex. Gavrilovchuk for the coming year.

Bishop Boaz asked if there were any young men to be ordained to deacon's orders Mr. G. I. Yasinitsky and Mr. A. A. Guroff were nominated as candidates for the order of deacon. Since their character had already been passed, a vote was taken by ballot and they were unanimously elected to deacon's orders. It was announced that the ordination service will be on Sunday night, September 20, 1925 at the regular Church service.

It was voted that the Conference be adjourned to meet again Wednesday, September 23, 1925, 8:30 P. M. after prayer service.

The second session of the fourth Annual meeting of the Siberia-Manchuria Mission, Russian Department of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, convened in the Central Methodist Church, New Town, Harbin, Manchuria, 8:30 P. M. Wednesday; September 23, 1925, with Bishop Boaz in the chair. After the regular weekly prayer service, conducted by Bishop Boaz, the business session was held. This was a joint session of the Russian and Korean departments of the Siberia-Manchuria Mission.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved. The minutes of the Korean Department had already been read and approved.

The two departments, Korean and Russian of the Siberia-Manchuria Mission were explained by Bishop Boaz, bccause at this session a delegate from this mission to the General Conference was to be elected. Also he explained who was eligible to be chosen as delegate.

Then the vote was taken and Mr. Ryang was elected delegate to the General Conference from the Siberia-Manchuria Mission. The following resolutions were read and adopted.

1. Whereas, Bishop H. A. Boaz has during the present quadrennium rendered our Mission such valuable serivce in these beginning years; and.

Whereas, it will be possible for him to give us even better supervision for the next four years, since he knows the field and its problems

We wish to acknowledge our indebtedness to him and express our appreciation and sincere thanks for his patience and sympathy in dealing with us and our difficulties, and to request the College of Bishops to return him to us for the next quadrennium.

Signed: J. S. Ryang, Supt. Korean Dept.
H. W. Jenkins, Supt Russian Dept.

2. Whereas the present Siberia Mission consists of two separate and distinct Departments and experience has shown that they in practice must be treated as distinct Missions, and whereas the present name does not include fully the work of the Russian Department, we request and urge the Board of Missions, that a new Mission be created and called the Russian Mission, the said Mission to include all work among the Russians in Manchuria, Siberia and Russia proper.

Signed: J. S. Ryang, Supt. Korean Dept.
H. W. Jenkins, Supt. Russian Dept.

It was voted to extend our thanks and appreciation to Mrs. H. A. Boaz for her faithful service during the quadrennium.

APPOINTMENTS
of the
Siberia-Manchuria Mission, Russian Department

Bishop H. A. Boaz, presiding.

1. H. W. Jenkins	Superintendent of the Mission and Director of Educational and Medical Work.
2. Geo. F. Erwin	Director of Evangelistic Work, Pastor of Harbin Central Church and Principal of Harbin Bible Institute.
3. G. I. Yasinitsky	Bible Teacher in Central High School and Assistant Pastor Central Church, Harbin.
4. Alex. Gavrilovchuk	Assistant Pastor Central Church, Harbin.
5. N. J. Poysti	Pastor Pristan Church, Mission Evangelist and Teacher in Harbin Bible Institute.
6. G. V. Volegoff	Assistant Pastor, Pristan Church.
7. A. A. Guroff	Pastor Tsitsikar Church.
8. Miss Constance Rumbough	Woman's Evangelisic Work, English teacher in Pristan and Central High schools and Language Study.
9. Miss Lillian Wahl	Woman's Evangelistic Work, English teacher in Pristan and Central High schools and Language Study.

Bishop H. A. Boaz, members of the Methodist Mission and the students of the Bible Institute.

REPORT

of H. W. Jenkins, Superintendent

Siberia Mission (Russian Dept) Annual Mission Session, 1925

From every standpoint Russia occupies one of the most strategic positions in the world. This is especially true from the standpoint of other nationalities of the Church. The Russian people own one acre of land while all the other nationalities of the world own only five acres. One person out of every ten of the world's population is a Russian.

Thousands of acres of virgin soil and untold mineral wealth are yet untouched.

But it's not Russia's great size and material wealth that make it an important factor for Christianity

Russia's location and her great people are the factors that make it so important to Christianity. Along its southern border, which stretches almost across two continents are to be found more than one half of the world's population! Japan, Korea, China, India, Persia and Mohamaedian Turkey. Almost a thousand million people with no barrier between them! Most of these people have either never heard the name of Christ, or the Christ. as they have known him has not been able to be a personal factor in their lives.

Methodism is practically unknown in Russia. If the forces that caused the Wesley revivals in England had been latent in Russia, Russia, like England, would have, in all probability, been saved from the revolution with its horrible consequences and the anti-Christian movements, the disasterous results of which can only be seen in the next generations.

With no aim other than the great commission: "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with

you alway, even unto the end of the world", our great Methodist Church has begun its work among the Russian people. We believe that the Holy Spirit will enable us to convince the Russian people of the sincerity of our purpose and in co-operation with other Christian organizations in Russia, such a world evangelistic force will be begun that will arouse all Russia and its great neighbors—a thousand million strong—to accept Christ and his teaching as a practical force in the life of the individual and the nation. God grant that our people at home may catch the vision and make greater sacrifices that the Gospel may be carried to these people.

The wisdom of Bishop Lambuth's selecting Harbin as one of the first centers for our work is very evident. Harbin is not only the commercial and economical center of a country, larger than Great Britain and France together, 7% of whose area is being cultivated and only 2% of its virgin forests has as yet been exploited, but because of it's geographical position it bids fair to become the business center of the Far East. It has direct connections with Europe, Japan and Southern China by rail and being on the navigable Sungari is connected with the water routes of Siberia and the Pacific.

The three departments of our work: Evangelistic, Medical and Education work have made great progress as is shown by the reports that are to follow. We believe that God will give us forces that will enable us to make even greater progress next year.

Educational work.

METHODIST HIGH SCHOOLS. Our Central High school has had a very successful year during its 1924-25 term. The enrollment reached 387. We had nine classes then, but have added two more this year. Next year two more classes will have to be added and then the school will be complete—a 10th grade school with parallel grades to the 8th, 9th ond 10th grades.

PRISTAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL The Pristan parallel classes have also been well attended. The enrollment during the past year reached 206. Making a total for the two schools 593.

Dental clinics in both the schools and the school doctors from the Methodist Clinic administered to the physical needs of the children.

Religious chapel services are held daily and a large per cent of the pupils take a personal interest in our Epworth Leagues and Sunday Schools. Each class has two Bible lessons a week. Our school fills a great need in the lives of the hundreds of boys and girls who attend our schools.

We are seriously in need of a building and feel that somehow our friends at home will enable us to construct a building suitable for a school. The buildings rented at present were formerly stores and the small classrooms, narrow dark halls and lack of the necessary ventilation, light etc., make this phase of our mission work not only very difficult, but very inefficient and unsatisfactory. We cannot get some very desireable patronage that we otherwise would have.

Recently we had many new pupils to come to our schools and you should see the disappointment in some of their faces when they thought of our small dark rooms and rough floors, which are so different from some of the schools they had to leave on account of the attitude of the authorities toward the Bible and religion. Most of the children will stay, but under very unfavourable conditions, because of the building which

is very unsuitable for school work. We shall continue to believe that our friends will not let this opportunity to fill a real need pass. God will provide a way.

METHODIST INSTITUTE Our Institute gives courses in English Language, Bookkeeping, English and Russian typewriting. These classes are offered in the evening because the buildings are busy in the day-time with day schools (Gymnasiums) and also to enable young people, who work in the day to improve themselves by study in the evenings.

Our enrollment in New Town during the past year was 490 and in Pristan 254, total 744.

Thirty minutes religious Chapel services are held daily and great good is being done. Some of the most active personal workers in our revival meetings were from our evening classes and some of the most faithful in attendance at church and Sunday School were reached through the evening business classes.

During the past year 80 students graduated and many of them are now in Russia, Australia, Canada, America and other parts of the world.

I have been teaching in these classes and was assisted by Mrs. Jenkins and Mrs. Erwin before Christmas. On account of ill health Mrs. Erwin was not able to continue her work with us.

My work in the different phases of the Mission work I fear has not been very efficient, but the Lord has greatly blessed me and enabled me to do the impossible.

Join us in praying that He will continue to bless us in this great work in His name.

METHODIST CLINIC Last year on account of the increased demand on the medical work it became necessary to move our work into larger quarters. We secured a place in the same building with our Modyagow church and moved in on December 1, 1924. These premesis were much larger, more conveniently located and in many other respects more suitable to our medical work.

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Having larger quarters it was decided to open a dispensary to furnish medicine to our patients as well as others who were in need. The dispensary enabled us to furnish medicine to the Clinic and patients on an average of 50% cheaper than when we were dependent on the retail drug stores. This great saving to the needy population has resulted in a much larger patrionage than we anticipated and has enabled us to increase our stock of medicines which on September lst, amounted to 1298.25. On June 30th 3118 prescriptions had been filled in the dispensary

The general attendance of the clinic has gradually increased, In May there were 2671 treatments given The total treatments during the year ending June 30th was 22564 to 4219 different individuals. Beginning on September lst, of this year the medical and dental Departments of the two schools were taken over by the Ambulatory. The total cost of supplying medical assistance to more than five hundred pupils in our schools will be carried by the Clinic and not the schools.

This will enable the Clinic to do even greater service, because it will be in direct touch with the homes of those children.

We have made special efforts through the distribution cf Church announcements and religious literature to make our work administer not only to the physical but also the spiritual needs of the people.

There is a great need for a still greater extension of the work, if our appropriations will permit. A general hospital is seriously needed in this section. It would alleviate much suffering among the several thousand people, who have at present no hospital to go to and the crowded conditions in the home render it almost impossible to care for the sick.

I wish to thank Dr. Uspensky and Dr. Serebriakoff and their staff of coworkers, whose lives and hearty co-operation have enabled our Missian to perform a distinctive Christian Service to the Community.

High School Classes Central High School

REPORT

of

Evangelistic work

Geo. F. Erwin.

With great pleasure I make this my fourth report as a missionary to Bishop Boaz and the members of the Sideria-Manchuria Mission. This has been a very busy, but the most pleasant year of my ministry. I have tried to direct the work as best I could. I have tried to know the will of God in all things which I have undertaken.

We have had three churches in op eration this year. Pristan and Modyagow under the pastorate of Rev. N. J. Poysti, and I of the Central Church. Due to the fact that Bro. Poysti went home to Finland for the summer, I became in charge of all three of the churches. Due to the able assistance of Bros. Gavrilovchuk in Central Church, Guroff in Modyagow and Volegoff in Pristan, we have been able to hold up the work very well during the summer. For several reasons, we thought it best to unite Modyagow with Pristan and Central Church.

As Bro. Poysti has been absent during the last four months I shall make the statistical report for the whole work.

SPIRITUAL STATE OF THE CHURCHES. Since our last Annual meeting, we have had Rev. M. B. Stokes to hold two union revival meetings for us. We feel that these meetings were a blessing to all who came in contact with them. In the last meeting, about sixty gave testimony to having been converted. In the first several were converted. We have at this time many active workers in both churches, and for this reason I feel that next year will be a great one for our work in Harbin and Manchuria.

MEMBERSHIP.

1. Total members, received since the opening of the misssion 203

2. Removed by death, certificate, withdrawal, and by order of the church Conferences 31

3. Present membership 172

4. Additions since last Conference

Central Church	42
Pristan and Modyagow . . .	38
Total . .	80

EPWORTH LEAGUES. We have had three senior and three junior leagues in operation the past year with a membership of 1925. These leagues raised 248.13 yen and distributed it for relief for the poor and foreign mission work. One Junior League contributed money to open a Sunday school In Korea. The Leagues are proving a blessing to our young people in in that they are learning to be active workers.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS. We have had good Sunday schools in each church, with a membership of 320 and an average attendance of about two hundred except during the summer months. The schools have raised ₩163.08, which has been used for literature, local expenses, and the collections of oneSunday each month have gone to help support a leper home in Korea. Our Sunday Schools are taking on new life. Last Sunday we had the largest attendance that we have ever had in the Central Church. Miss Rumbough is superintendent in Central Church and Miss Wahl in Pristan. We feel that under their leadership a nd with the assistance of many faithful teachers that the work will go forward this coming year.

LADIES' MISSIONARY SOCIETIES. Each Church has had its ladies work since they were organized. These societies have been very active in their efforts to relieve the suffering of as many as possible, as well as developing their own spiritual lives. They have collected ¥389.50. This money has been spent in relief work and in increasing the work of the library for which they have become responsible.

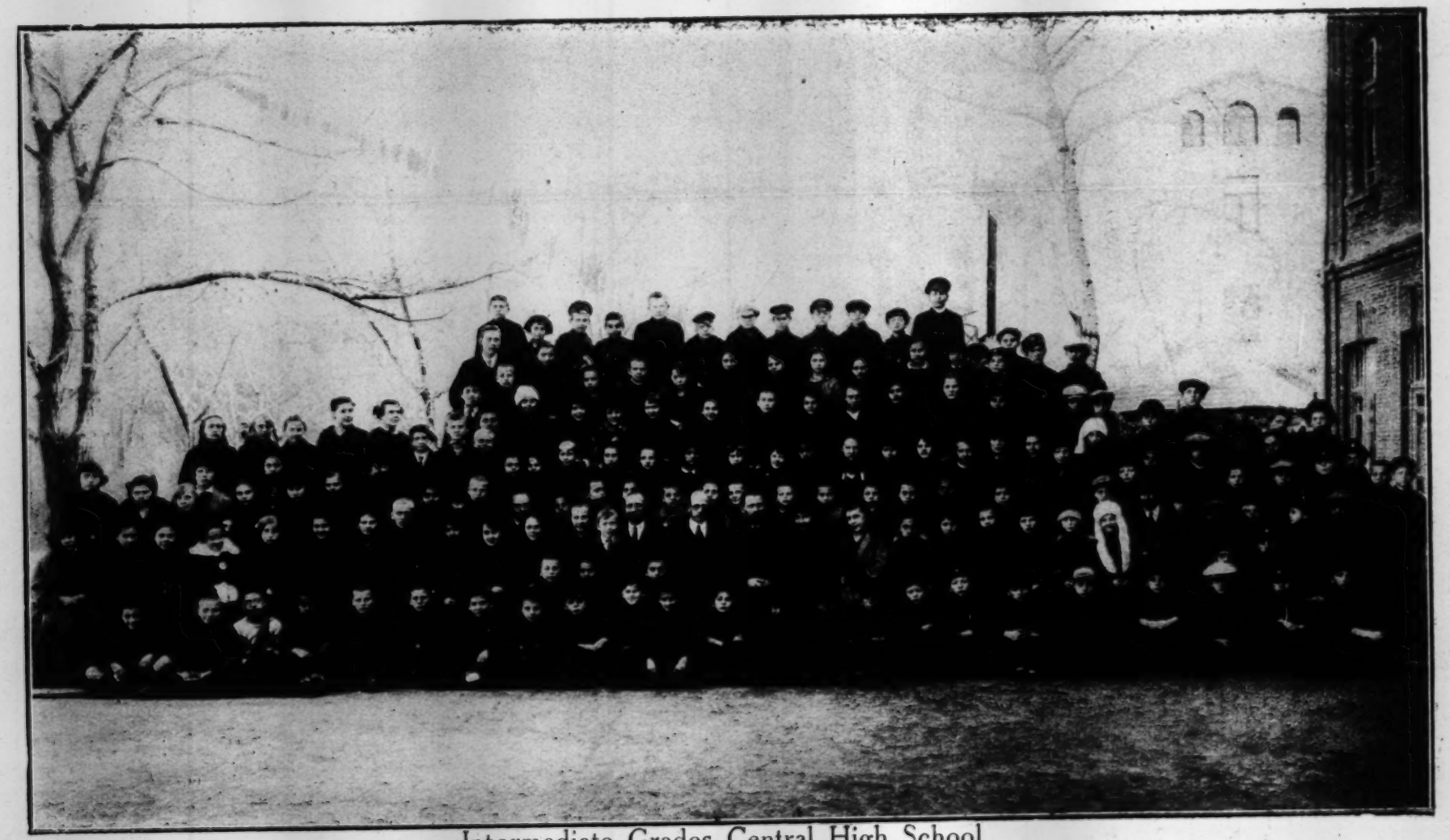
LEAGUE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN. This is an organization within our churches to assist a few of the poor children of Harbin. This league has 110 members who contribute from 30 sen upwards per month. It has secured ¥ 146.30 and is supporting seven children in school and assisting two more. We hope that it may grow so as to assist many worthy children.

WORK OF THE STEWARDS. Our church collections have amounted for the year to ¥763.20. This has been spent on local expenses and for relief work. We hope, however, that we shall do much more this year and that our church shall soon be self-supporting.

TOTAL FINANCES.

In all our departments we have raised during the year	¥1710.21
Total raised last year	1360.01
Advance	¥350.20

TRANSLATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS. One of the great needs of our Mission is religious literature in the Russian language. During the year we have published 1000 copies of our Hymn Book without music. We have just put out 3000 copies of "What every Methodist Ought to Know". Each month we have issued 1000 copies of our Mission paper, formerly Methodist Christian Advocate," but now „Bulletin of the Siberia-Manchuria Mission." In the first we translated most of the material from other papers and books, but now most of the material is written by the members of the church. Besides this we have published some small pamphlets. We are very thankful to Bro. Poysti and Mrs. Pestrikoff and others who have assisted in this valuable work. Bro. Belousoff has done valuable work in distributing our literature and Bibles in the stations along the R. R.



Intermediate Grades Central High School

THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL. The future of our Church in Siberia and Manchuria depends on how well we train our young preachers. We have in our school this year nine young preachers and M. Poysti, Miss Wahl, Miss Rumdough, Bro. Hawk and myself have been the teachers. We have some new applicants for this year. We have been able to do this work by the able assistance of Mrs. Pestrikoff as interpretor.

REPORT

of

Miss Constance Rumbough

Womans' Work.

My second year, language study was given the most important place on the program. I studied six hours a day five days a week until our camp work began the first of June. Four of these hours were with teachers and two alone.

Besides language study I worked in various organizations of the churches. My work in the missionary societies was in Modyegow and Pristan. The Modyegow society which was well organized and under the capable leadership of Mrs. Poysti didn't need much help. Some of these women with others from Central Church organized a society in the Pristan Church The women here we found eager to work and because they have been so willing to learn it has been a pleasure to work with them. In both of these societies we have one missionary meeting a month and one business meeting besides weekly meetings to sew. The women take orders for sewing giving needy members the work obtained. In Modyagow I taught a series of Bible lessons in the fall. The attendance of this class was from twenty to thirty. Later in the year I gave the same lessons in Russian to a smaller more intimate group in the Pristan Society. The Pristan Society sent two girls and the Modyagow Society one girl to our summer camp. The Pristan women also sent a boy to the Methodist Boys Camp. These women joined with the Modyagow and Central Church woman to help support a Bible woman in the Chinese Methodist Church in Harbin. Since the Modyagow church is disbanding to unite with the other two churhes the society as such discontinues. The membership in Modyagow was twenty six, in Pristan fourteen. Last spring the three

societies united and formed a District Organization. A conference was held at which talks were made instructing the women how to work more efficiently.

My Epworth League work has been in Pristan. There has been a great difference in the Senior League there this year. This was because several of the officers and members of the League became converted last fall and began working in earnest and with zeal. The work is on a firmer foundation now and the prospects for the coming year are promising. We organized a Junior League also in Pristan this year, made up for the most part of children from the gymnasium The children entered into work enthusiastically, the attendance until Christmas being about one hundred. Later there were fewer. The difficulty has been in getting adequate help in this work.

I have continued to teach my Sunday School class of teen age girls and boys in the New Town Church. We have an average attendance of about fifteen. Every two weeks we have week day social and business meetings. One girl and one boy have become members of the church during the year, and two others have been converted and wish to become members.

In the ministerial school I taught a course on the prophets two hours a week.

My share of the talks in the Institutes and Gymnasiums have been three a week. One in the Institute in English and and two in Russian in the Gymnasium.

I had charge of the mission's four orphan boys to buy their clothing and food, and superintend their work, study and play.

Some time was given to visiting in the homes, but not nearly as much was left for this as I would have liked to have had.

This summer Miss Wahl and I had a camp for girls at Maoershan from the fifteenth of June to the first of August. The girls came in three groups for

a half month's stay each. In the first group there were eighteen girls, in the second twenty and the third twenty one. Some stayed for more than one group, so that there were in all thirty six different girls. We had a definite daily program of work, study and play. There was a Bible class an hour a day, and chapel morning and evening. My part in this was teaching a week's Bible course each to the first and second groups and a two week's course to the third which was an English speaking group. The chapel talks were made in turn by the four teachers. On Sunday we had Sunday School and Epworth League, and five times a ministerial student came down from Harbin and conducted church services for us. We had hikes, bathing, gymnastics, and games. The girls were divided into groups of about five with a teacher and captain at the head of each, who were responsible for the group. The girls paid seven dollars for a half month which paid for their board, and in addition two dollars and forty cents for their railroad tickets. We feel that God answered our prayers and blessed this work.

Primary Grades Central High School.

REPORT

of

Miss Lillian Wahl

Woman's Work.

This last year has been a most blessed year and filled with many happy memories. God's wonderous power has been manifested through many lives and blessing s have been showered upon all.

The six hours of language study was continued through this second year and along with our study, we have been making talks in the gymnasium chapels in Russian and also taught some Bible lessons in the Woman's Missionary Society in Russian. Then as a taste of English, I had one chapel a week in the Institute.

My church work has been in New Town and Pristan. In New Town I have worked with the women, who have proved themselves willing workers and have made some progress. We have had four meetings a month which included one open meeting and one Bible lesson each month. The ladies did some sewing and with the Modyagow and Pristan Societies, they had a bazaar and concert before Christmas. They helped many needy people. All the organizations in the church took part in the „White Christmas". We had a special program gifts were brought and afterwards distributed to the needy people In the fall we had a six weeks course of Bible Study, „The Women of the Bible." Usually ten ar tweve women attended these lsssons. In the spring the ladies arranged two concerts The money received from the first, they gave to the Epworth League for the Easter work and with the money from the second they bought Russian books for the library, and now have taken over the care of the library and will run it. They have done some splendid work in this already. This year they have paid four Chinese dollars a month towards the support of a Chinese native worker in the Chinese Methodist Church in Pristan.

The Epworth League has been real busy this year and been going forward. The departments have carried on their work willingly and gladly. The League had its share in the „White Christmas" and distributed the gifts. However, their greatest work came at Easter time when they brought Easter joy into the hearts of many children. All organizations of the Church and representatives from the gymnasium helped in this. It drew all nearer to each other. A New Testament was given with each package and in the homes the distributers read from the Bible and had prayer with the people. All the children were invited to come to the church one afternoon. A committee arranged a program for entertaining the children, for play and for lunch. About two hundred children came. During the holidays the league presented a pageant „The Easter Light", which was very good. The weekly programs have been well attended during this year. Mr. Skurkin, a teacher in the Commercial School gave a series of four interesti. ng lectures on the religions of China. Many attended these lectures. The Junior League was organized in October of last year, with Mrs. Bradovitch in charge of this work and she has worked faithfully. The children take charge of the meetings. During the year they presented several missionary playlets. They voted to send their money to Mr. Stokes in Korea to be used in his work. The Senior League paid one dollar a month for missionary work among the Chinese and helps toward the payment of one student in the gymnasim. We had a few parties during the year but volley balley has been the chief exercise. We are planning for better and more efficient work this year.

In the spring a Union Society was organized for the ladies and also for the leagues. Their work begins this fall.

From October for three or four months I had charge of the Personal Workers meetings. Mrs. Leonard gave us some helpful lectures on Personal work. Then I taught two hours a week in the Ministerial school I taught „History of the old Testamcnt".

My work in Pristan was in the Sunday School. I was superintendent and had a class of teen age boys and girls. Our attendance during the winter averaged sixty or more. We meet twice a month for parties and work. In the Sunday School we have four classes with their teachers and officers. All helped to give Christmas cheer and Easter joy unto others. The Last Sunday in the month is Missionary Sunday and we give the collection to the Chinese Methodist Church in Pristan to be used as they wished. Usually we had a special program this Sunday. Three times during the year we had a Sunday School party which was enjoyed by all. This fall an English Bible class was organized with Mrs, Geo. Erwin as teacher. The first Sunday therewere seven but from the interest shown, am sure there willbe more.

Along with my work I have done some visiting in New Town, Pristan and Modyagow.

Until summer we had a prayer meeting twice a month at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bradovitch. This brought much joy to all and good results.

Our whole church was wonderfully blessed during the Revival meeting and afterwards. Many people accepted Christ and gave themselves in service unto Him to go wherever He calls.

During the summer Miss Rumbough and I had a camp for girls and women. We are satisfied with the results of our first venture. There we cared for necessary things about camp and the recreation of the girls. Miss Rumbough and I alternated weekly in teaching the Bible in Russian. Then four of us alternated in conducting chapel. The last two weeks were with the English speaking people.

It is indeed a joy and a pleasure to give our hands, feet, tongue, eyes and ears unto Jesus through which He can work. Sometimes the task seems tremendous but we want to remember the words of Paul 2 Corinthians 12:9, „My grace is sufficient for thee for my power is made perfect in weakness."

REPORT

of

N. J. Poysti

Pastor Modyagow & Pristan Churches, Editor of the Methodist Advocate

Dear Bishop Boaz and Members of the Mission:

At the last conference I was appointed by Bishop as pastor of two churches, in Pristan and Modyagow, and editor of our „Methodist Advocate". The Evangelistic Committee elected me as a teacher in the Bible Institute.

My appointment and the election were a joy to me and I tried my best to fulfil my duty.

In fact my work did not last through the whole conference year, because during four months in the summer, I was given a furlough and spent the time in Europe, preaching among the Methodists, Baptists and Lutherans. I want to call your attention to the fact that the Methodist work among Russians is very popular in the Leningrad district, and is very successful. The Soviet government has not interfered with the work of our church in Leningrad, Novgorod and other places.

EDITORIAL WORK. The journal was very popular not only here in Manchuria, but also in White Russia, the Baltic District and many other places in the Union of Soviet Socialistic Republics. Our journal was not only of an informational character, but consisted in general of Bible and Theological articles. The articles were taken from Baltic, Lettonian and Esthonian journals and then translated.

THE WORK IN THE BIBLE INSTITUTE. I taught homiletics, the New Testament and had the general control over the literary work of the students.

PASTOR'S WORK. Being in charge of two pastorates I had to preach 5 or 6 times a week. I had special revival meetings, Bible classes, Epworth Lea-

Intermediate Grades, Pristan School

gues, Sunday schools, Ladies' Missionary Societies etc. Many souls were converted during our meetings of the past year and started a new life.

During the year 38 new members were received into the Modygow and Pristan churches. The Modygow Church was united with the Central and Pristan churches during my absence.

REPORT

of

G. I. Yasinitsky

Student of the Theological School

Dear Brethren and Sisters:

I am very glad to testify before you that I have tried my best to meet the appointment I received from Bishop Boaz at our last annual session.

WORK IN THE SCHOOLS. From the very beginning of my work as Bible teacher in the schools I had to face some great difficulties.

My pupils belonged to many different social classes some being well to-do, others very poor And I was very sorry to learn that half of my pupils did not have any knowledge of religion. But the Lord be praised, the Gospel of God's mercy was gladly received by them and we received a great blessing and consolation from God.

God being our helper, we were able to complete a large course, which consisted of 45 Biblical themes for each class I had, on the whole, 14 classes, in which I gave 768 hourly lessons during the school year.

In teaching the course of religion, I tried to lay stress on its moral uplifting side, and in higher classes on its evangelical side, notwithstanding the early age of those pupils. The enemy of mankind had already sown the seeds of doubt and scepticism in many hearts.

The Holy Bible was our text book and about 500 copies of the Bible were distributed among our pupils and found their way into as many Russian homes. In the morning chapels in the schools we have short devotional exercises. The moral influence of the lessons often induced the children to make great promises and originated purely Christian enthusiasm in them.

Before Christmas I received a letter, signed by seven pupils of the fifth class, asking me to organize a circle for the study of Biblical literature. This circle,

which now has 30 members, is known as „the Saint Paul's Circle" At one of the prayer-meetings of our Circle the young people testified that they firmly believed they had been saved through the great sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. At present our Circle is trying to achieve a serious task; the young people are collecting a great number of New Testaments for free distribution among prisoners in China. During last year 15 pupils (boys and girls) were received into the Church.

WORK IN THE CHURCH. My Church work consisted of helping Rev. Geo. F. Erwin to conduct the Sunday services, and of conducting Prayer-services on the second Wednesday of every month in winter. All the commissions of my pastor I tried to fulfil as well as I could, God being my helper. In the Sunday School I taught the class of children, which was called „Help Your Neighbor".

STUDY IN THE BIBLE INSTITUTE . I am very sorry that the time of my work in the schools coincided with the morning lecture in the Bible Institute, and I had to study that course at home. But I was happy to attend all evening lectures on „Church History", by Rev. G. F. Erwin and on „Systematic Theology" by Rev. Hawk.

I studied English with a private teacher.

I am happy to acknowledge before you that of all the five years of my simple service in the Church, the last year brought the greatest spiritual joy and satisfaction.

I pray that the Lord will bless my efforts in our Mission, which I lay on the altar of His service.

Bishop H. A. Boaz (center) and First Deacons of the Siberia Mission: A. A. Guroff (left) and G. J. Yassinitsky (right).

REPORT

A. F. Gavrilovshuk.

Assistant-pastor of the Central Methodist Church, Harbin.

I write this Report with constant thanks and praises to our Lord Jesus Christ. During the year's work as assistant-pastor, by the helpful assistance of God, I grew in strength and faith in our Lord, Jesus Christ. I feel that I have been made stronger.

Last year I attended the second course of the Bible Institute and passed the examination. At the same time I worked as assistant-pastor under the influence and leadership of pastor Geo. F. Erwin. My duty was to visit the members of the Church and all people, who wanted to come to Christ. The average was not less than 20 per month.

During the year I preached 25 times and had prayer meetings 15 times, in the church and in private homes. During two and one half months I had short prayer-meetings with 4 school boys 4 times a week.

My personal work was most successful during the revival meetings this spring.

Every Sunday I taught a Sunday School class and these lessons have been very useful to me. bringing peace into my soul and order into my religious thoughts. Three pupils from my class joined the Methodist church.

I take an active part in the life of the „Epworth Leagues" and am president of the Central Epworth League. This League collects money and clothes for the poorest children of the city every big holiday, such as Christmas and Easter and I am very happy that the work of this Central League was the basis of the new organized League for the Protection of Children.

After the Bible Institute, I worked for some time outside of Harbin in Maeorshan.

During the whole summer I was in charge of the Methodist Institute Library until it passed into the hands of the Woman's Missionary Society My work

generally consisted of the distribution of religious literature. I distributed many religious pamphlets and sold 400 journals „The Methodist Christian Advocate."

I worked as interpreter from English into Russian during prayermeetings, chapels, in the instruction classes, etc.

At the end of my short report I praise God for giving me the opportunity to work in His field; and then I thank Rev. G. F. Erwin and all other leaders in this religious work, who have helped me in my spiritual education.

The harmony in the life of all the members of the Church, their prayers and help, were also an assistance to me during this year's work.

REPORT

of

A. A. Guroff

Student of the Theological Institute, Local Preacher and Assistant Pastor Modyagow Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Thru God's grace I was appointed last year by Bishop H. A. Boaz as local preacher and assistant-pastor Modyagow Church. During the past year I continued to study in our Theological Institute, was teacher of the children's class („Whitefield") in the Modyagow Sunday school, and after the uniting of both churches, Modyagow and Central, I was in charge of one of the classes for children in the Central Sunday School. Besides this I fulfilled my duties as secretary of the Modyagow Epworth League. In August, at one of the meetings of the League for Protection of Children I was elected as president of the district committee in Modyagow.

During the past conference year I assisted the pastor in conducting the services and preached several times. During the furlough of pastor N. J. Poysti, I assisted pastor Erwin in the regular Church services in Modyagow on Wednesdays, and in the summer, together with the other young preachers I preached in Pristan and in Central Church. In June I visited the camp at Maeorshan. There I conducted two Chapels, the Sunday school and preached once.

During the past conference year, I led the following meetings: 28 regular church services, 8 prayer meetings, 4 Epworth League meetings, and 2— Sunday school meetings. I have made about 300 visits during this year.

I thank and priase God for His blessing during this year and for giving me an opportunity to work in His kingdom.

I thank also all the leaders in this work, missionaries, for their spiritual help and advice, and all my brothers and sisters in Christ—for their assistance in the work in God's Name.

Sunday School Central Church.

REPORT

G. V. Volegoff.

Assistant-Pastor Methodist Episcopal Church, (South), Pristan.

I thank God for the priviledge of working in our Church and for the honor of taking part in the present Annual session where I give this report in the presence of the conference and friends.

Being appointed, September 27 1924, as assistant-pastor of the Pristan church, I worked first with pastor N. J. Poysti, and then after his departure under the leadership of pastor Geo. F. Erwin. At first my work consisted of informing the inhabitants of this part of the city belonging to the church of all announcements made in church and of the time of our services. I also distributed religious pamphlets, papers and journals. At the same time I preached and was in charge of the church services, being appointed by the pastor. Afterwards I preached in Pristan on Sundays together with other assistants: A. A. Guroff and A. F. Gavrilovchuk. During the summer, by order of pastor Erwin, I fulfilled my duties as pastor and visited the homes. Then we, the assistant-pastors, preached in turns in the Central Church, New Town, Wednesdays. I conducted one preaching service in Maeorshan, in the ladies' camp.

From the beginning I have had work in the Pristan Epworth League as leader of the religious department. On May the first I was elected as leader of the religious department of the local union of Epworth Leagues.

In the Sunday school work I have had charge of the little folks' class and have taught these little children about Jesus Christ by telling them stories. The average class attendance was 10 pupils, and during the year we collected 4:75 yen. During the summer months of June, July and August, I fulfilled the duties of superintendent of the Sunday school.

I attended the Theological Institute and passed my examinations before the beginning of summer vacation. I studied English in the Institute together with all the other students.

I am the local correspondent of the Pristan Church in our „Bulletin" published by the church.

I thank Almighty God for the leadership and help, that I received from my leaders and teachers in the work of serving Him, and for all the good and love, that I have seen from my brothers and sisters in Christ.

Workers Methodist Clinic.

SIBERIA-MANCHURIA MISSION, RUSSIAN DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY FOR 1925-1926.

NAME	ADDRESS	APPOINTMENT
1. H. W. Jenkins	128 Telenskaya st. Harbin, China	Superintendent of the Mission and Director of Educational and Medical Work.
2. Geo. F. Erwin	128 Telenskaya st. Harbin, China	Director of Evangelistic Work, Pastor of Harbin Central Church and Principal of Bible Institute.
3. G. I. Yasinitsky	Methodist Church Harbin, China	Bible Teacher in Central High school and Assistant Pastor Central Church, Harbin.
4. Alex. Gavrilovchuk	128 Telenskay st. Harbin, China	Assistant Pastor Central Church, Harbin.
5. N. J. Poysti	26 Chernogorskaya Modyagow, Harbin.	Pastor Pristan Church, Mission Evangelist and Teacher in Harbin Bible Institute.
6. G. V. Volegoff	Methodist Church Pristan, Harbin.	Assistant-Pastor, Pristan Church.
7. A. A. Guroff	47Tsitsikarskaya, Tsitsikar.	Pastor Tsitsikar Church.
8. Miss Constance Rumbough	83 Pochtovaya. & Strelkovaya New Town, Harbin.	Woman's Evangelistic Work, English teacher in Pristan and Central High schools and Language Study.
9. Miss Lillian Wahl	83 Pochtovaya New Town, Harbin.	Woman's Evangelistic Work, English teacher in Pristan and Central High Schools and Language Study.